



Ministry
of Justice

Civil Legal Advice

Providing specialist advice on debt, education, discrimination,
housing and family problems in England and Wales

Help for victims of discrimination

Legal aid is available for people who have been treated badly because of their gender, race, sexuality, religion or because they have a disability. Legal aid can help to pay for legal advice or representation in a court or tribunal. You will need to show you cannot afford to pay this yourself.

To find out if you
might be able to get legal aid visit:

www.gov.uk/check-legal-aid

If you can't access the internet you can call:

0345 345 4345 (minicom 0845 6096677)

Monday to Friday: 9am–8pm and Saturday: 9am–12.30pm. Calls will cost approximately 9p per minute from a landline. Calls from mobiles may cost more. If you are worried about the cost ask us to call you back or text 'legalaid' and your name to 80010 and they will call back within 24 hours.

How does it work?

Whether you use the online checker, or call the helpline first, you will be asked questions about your problem and your financial circumstances.

This will include details of your, and if necessary, your partner's benefits, income, savings, spending and National Insurance number. So try to have this information to hand.

When you contact Civil Legal Advice the first person you will speak to will be an operator. If it looks like you qualify you will be transferred to a specialist adviser. They will need to ask you some more questions to confirm whether they can help. You will need to provide evidence of what you have told the adviser at a later date.

If Civil Legal Advice can't help, we will always suggest other places to go for information or advice. This may include advice services in your region.

You can find out more about what discrimination means at:
www.gov.uk/discrimination-yours-rights

How will you get advice?

If you qualify for the Civil Legal Advice service for your problem you will usually get help from an adviser by phone, post or online.

Let the adviser know if there is anything we can do to make it easier for you to communicate with us. This might be someone speaking on your behalf or using an interpreter, or a British Sign Language interpreter.

In some cases your Civil Legal Advice adviser may decide that you need to speak to someone in person or you might need someone to represent you in court. They will organise this for you.